



*Always Ready
Always There*

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Guardian Online Staff

Maj. Gen. Gary Saylor
Commanding General
Maj. Chris Borders
Public Affairs Officer
Editor

FORT CARSON ARMY UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM UNIT CONDUCTS TRAINING AT ORCHARD COMBAT TRAINING CENTER

Photos and story by Idaho Army

Personnel from the Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System Platoon of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division of Fort Carson, Colorado, conducted joint training with the Idaho Army National Guard's 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team March 6-19, 2016. This training, which took place in Idaho's Orchard Combat Training Center was a great experience for both units and validated the concept of active and reserve components being able to work together training to the same standards.



The 4th ID
TUAS
Soldiers
greatly
appreciated
the Idaho
facilities,
describing
the ample
airspace
and training

areas as well as Idaho Army National Guard range control support as a beacons of sunshine compared to the congested and smaller training areas they have seen at various Active Duty military installations.

They safely completed 16 flights with 42 hours of flight time during the seven available flying days after competing with Idaho's spring weather that included rain, snow, low cloud ceilings and high winds. When weather hampered their ability to fly their UAVs, the units

maximized the use of Idaho's Shadow crew trainer simulator and conducted academic training requirements on OCTC's flight line.



Idaho's 116th Soldiers provided Fort Carson personnel with OCTC and Mountain Home facilities, assistance and support with their Shadow systems, instructor operators, technical inspectors, maintainers, and mission coordinators.

Both units trained in Shadow requirements using their enabled laser guidance capabilities by conducting live-laser remote Hellfire missile engagements with Idaho's 1-183rd Attack Reconnaissance Battalion.

The joint training opportunity between Idaho's 1/A/116th Brigade Special Troops Battalion and TUAS/D/588th Brigade Engineer Battalion was a huge success with Idaho National Guard's training facilities and UAS operators earning accolades from the Fort Carson Soldiers.